

pure:deess
De-essing, spot on

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pure:deess is an intelligent, easy-to-use de-esser that detects and smooths out harsh sibilants, ensuring clear and natural vocals with minimal effort. Whether for sung vocals, voiceovers, or podcasts, its streamlined interface allows for quick, professional results with just a few intuitive adjustments.

Powered by sonible's advanced AI-driven phoneme detection, pure:deess analyzes sibilants in real time, adapting dynamically to the unique characteristics of each voice. Unlike traditional de-essers that rely on static frequency bands, the plug-in precisely shapes sibilants while preserving vocal clarity and presence. This intelligent processing eliminates harshness without over-compression, delivering transparent, high-quality de-essing in any mix.

System requirements

CPU

Intel Core i5
AppleM1
RAM
4GB

Operating systems

Windows 10+ (64 bit)
Mac OS 10.14+

OpenGL Version 3.2+



You will need admin privileges to successfully install the pure:deess plug-in.

Mac OSX

To start the installation process, please open the disk image **sonible_puredeess_osx_x.x.x.dmg**. This will mount the image and open a finder window showing the content of the installation package.

To install pure:deess on your system, run the installation file **puredeess.pkg**.

The installer will now guide you through the necessary steps to install pure:deess on your computer. pure:deess will automatically be installed in the default locations for audio plug-ins.

Default folders:

Audio Unit

`/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/Components/`

VST

`/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST/`

VST3

`/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3/`

AAX

`/Library/Application Support/Avid/Audio/Plug-Ins/`

Windows

To start the installation process, extract the downloaded zip-file **sonible_puredeess_win_x.x.x.zip** onto your hard disk and run the installer.

The installer will now guide you through the necessary steps to install pure:deess on your computer. pure:deess will automatically be installed in the default locations for audio plug-ins.

Default folders:

VST3

`C:\Program Files\Common Files\VST3\`

VST

`C:\Program Files\Common Files\VST\`

AAX

`C:\Program Files\Common Files\Avid\Audio\Plug-Ins`

Licensing system

You can select between two licensing systems: machine-based or iLok (USB dongle).

By creating a user account on www.sonible.com and registering your products – if they are not already visible in your Dashboard, you can manage your plug-in activations.

Machine-based

Each license key allows you to install pure:deess on two computers with unique system IDs. These system IDs are computed during license activation.

The same license can be used by multiple users, but each user has to individually unlock the full version of pure:deess under their account.

In case a system-ID is changed (e.g. replacement of the hard drive), you can revoke/activate the plug-in next to the respective system-ID in the Dashboard of your sonible user account.

iLok

If you want to transfer one activation to your iLok, just make sure the plug-in is registered in your sonible user account. Click on the button „transfer to iLok“ next to the plug-in in your Dashboard and follow the instructions.

Note: 1st gen iLok dongles and the iLok Cloud are currently not supported.

Unlocking

If you purchased a license for pure:deess online, you receive your license key via email.

Machine-based unlocking

When opening pure:deess for the first time, a notification window will be displayed asking you to unlock pure:deess with a valid license key.

Please make sure that your computer is connected to the internet before starting the registration process.

Enter your license key and click „register.“ The plug-in will now communicate with our server to check if the license is valid. If it is – enjoy! :)

iLok

If you transferred your license to an iLok, simply attach the iLok to your computer. The plug-in will then be automatically registered – enjoy!

If you don't receive the email within minutes please check your junk folder first before contacting our support (support@sonible.com).

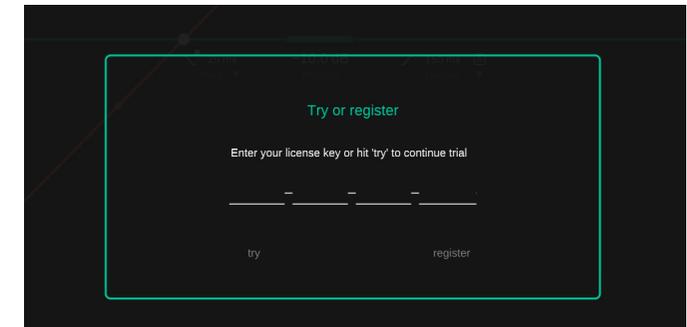
Trial version

To run pure:deess in demo-mode, simply click "try" and you will then be able to use pure:deess for a couple of days without any limitations. (Please refer to our website to find out more about the current demo period of pure:deess)

When the demo period expires, you will need to purchase a full license in order to continue using the plug-in.

Internet connection requirements

sonible plug-ins only needs an internet connection during the trial period and for initial license activation. During the trial period, the plug-in needs to go online every time it is used. Once the license of your plug-in has successfully been activated, an internet connection is no longer needed.



My Licenses

xxxxxx-xxxxxx-xxxxxx-xxxxxx [Register license key](#) [Need help?](#)

Product	License Key	Type	Description	Status	Date	Action
pure:deess	xxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxx	PC	xxxxxx	active	2000-00-00	revoke
					not activated	transfer to iLok

(Re-)Analyze Voice

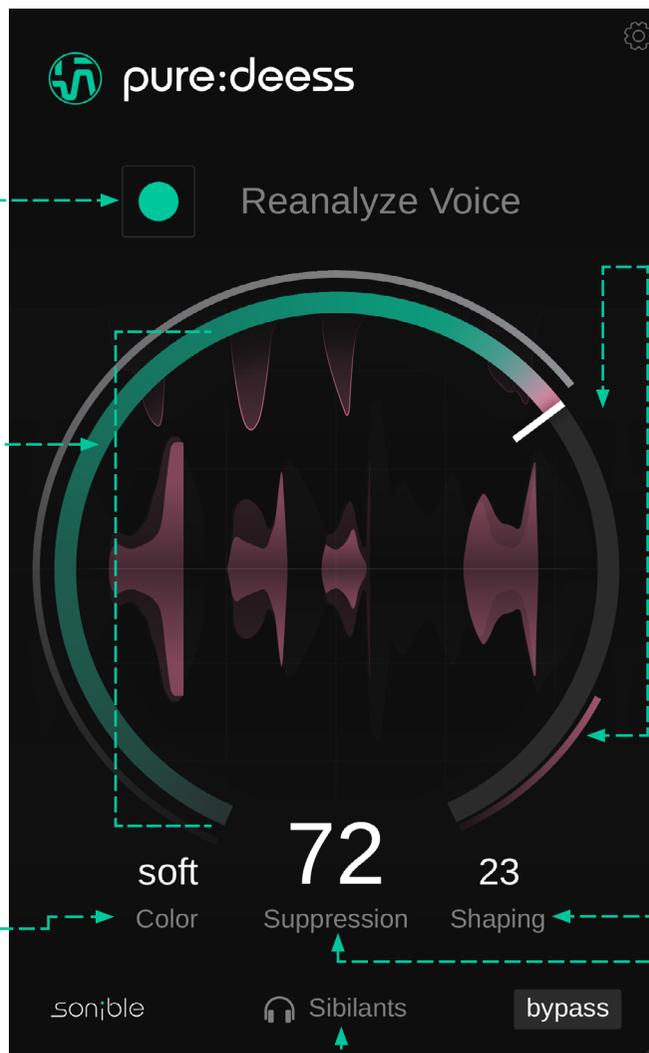
pure:deess learns a custom voiceprint for each speaker or singer. Always reanalyze the signal when working with a new speaker or singer to adapt the processing accordingly.

Signal History

Monitor the input signal (dark grey), output signal (light grey), detected sibilants (red sections) and the applied gain reduction (red top signal).

Color

Set a tonal target color for all detected sibilants.



Meters

Monitor the level of the output signal (grey) and the applied gain reduction (red).

Shaping

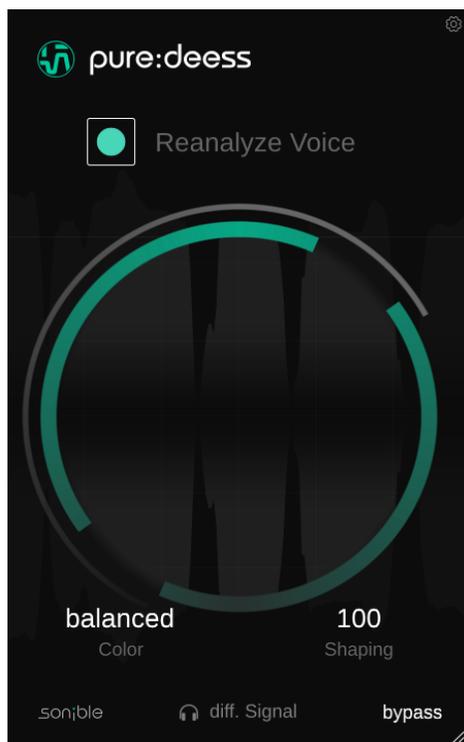
Choose the intensity of spectral processing to adjust how much sibilants are reshaped toward the selected tonal color.

Suppression

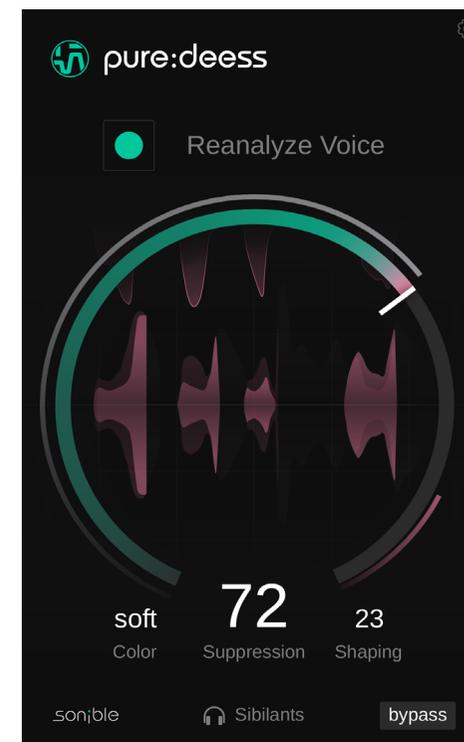
Control how much the level of detected sibilants is reduced.

Sibilant Solo

Listen to all detected sibilants.



INFO: How does pure:deess adapt to different voices? Unlike traditional de-essers that rely solely on frequency levels, pure:deess intelligently analyzes the actual phonetic content of the signal. By recognizing the unique characteristics of each voice, it tailors its processing in real-time, ensuring smooth and transparent results.



1. Analyzing the input signal

When you open pure:deess, the plug-in asks you to play back some audio so it can analyze the signal and adapt its processing to the characteristics of the speaker or singer. This ensures precise and natural de-essing without requiring manual configuration.

Make sure the playback section contains sibilants, as pure:deess needs a minimum amount to adjust its processing. If too few are detected or the signal is too quiet, a warning will appear.

2. Processing sibilants

Once the signal has been analyzed, pure:deess is ready to process sibilants. Detected sibilants are highlighted in red, allowing you to review and refine the results. You can also listen to the detected sibilants by clicking the solo button at the bottom of the interface.

Reanalyzing Voice

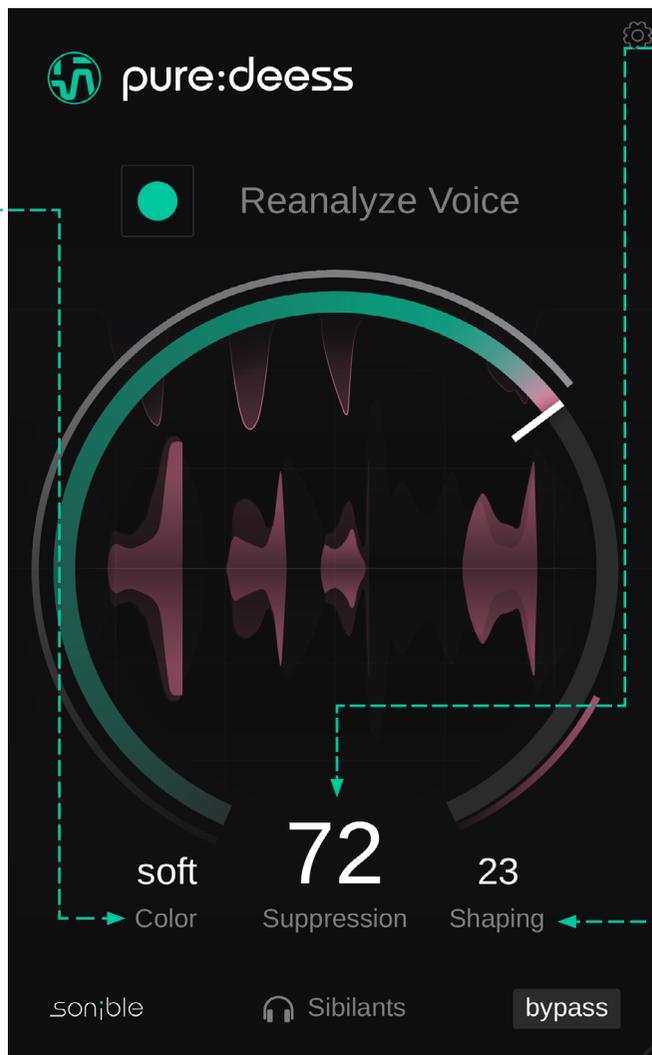
When working with a new speaker or singer, it's important to reanalyze the signal so pure:deess can accurately adapt its processing. This ensures optimal de-essing tailored to the unique characteristics of each voice.

While pure:deess intelligently smooths out sibilants for a natural and balanced sound, it also provides intuitive controls for fine-tuning. This allows you to shape the de-essing process to fit your creative vision, ensuring clarity and precision without over-processing.

Color

The sibilant Color parameter sets the target tonal character for all detected sibilants, allowing you to shape their presence in the mix.*

- **Soft:** Produces smooth, unobtrusive sibilants, reducing harshness while maintaining a natural sound. This setting works well for soft-spoken dialogue, breathy vocals, or background vocals that should blend seamlessly into a mix.
- **Sharp:** Enhances clarity and presence, making sibilants more defined and articulate. Useful for lead vocals or voiceovers that need extra intelligibility, this setting ensures crisp diction without introducing harshness.
- **Balanced:** Preserves the natural tone of sibilants while correcting only problematic resonances or spectral imbalances. Ideal for transparent de-essing, this setting maintains the original vocal character while ensuring sibilants don't become distracting.



Suppression

The Suppression parameter controls how much the level of detected sibilants is reduced.

- At low values, only the loudest sibilants are attenuated, preserving the natural dynamics of the performance.
- At high values, the plug-in reduces the level of all sibilants, even those that only slightly stand out, resulting in a more uniform and controlled vocal sound.

Shaping

The Shaping parameter adjusts the intensity of spectral processing applied to sibilants, shaping their tonal character toward the selected color.*

- Higher values result in more consistent and uniform sibilant sounds, smoothing out variations for a polished output.
- Lower values preserve the natural shape of the sibilants, applying minimal spectral adjustment while still controlling harshness.

This allows you to fine-tune how much the tonal quality of sibilants is altered, balancing transparency with control.

**Note: The Color parameter has no effect when Shaping is set to zero, as no spectral processing is applied.*

To visit the settings page, click the cogwheel in the upper right corner.

Auto-analyze on Startup

Start audio analysis automatically when loading the plug-in.

Show tooltips

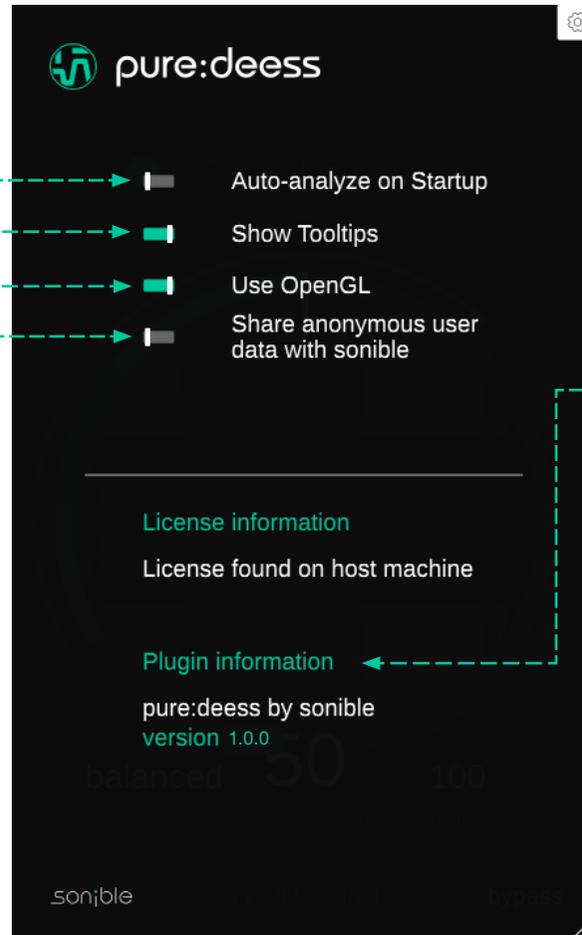
Enable/Disable tooltips on hover.

Use OpenGL

OpenGL might cause rendering issues on certain computer hardware. Use this option to disable OpenGL.

Share anonymous user data with sonible

Enable to share fully anonymous user data with sonible and help us improve our plug-ins.



Plug-in & Licensing Information

Here you can find the name and version of your plug-in as well as the license key (when not licensed via iLok)

Update notice

When a new version of the plug-in is available, you'll receive a notification here and it's also indicated by a little dot on the cogwheel in the main view of pure:deess. Click on the green text to download the latest version.

www.sonible.com/puredeess

All specifications are subject to change without notice.

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